PUBLIC NOTICE

PERMIT APPLICATION: NRS 07.291

APPLICANT: John L. Hewitt, P.E.

Tennessee Department of Transportation Environmental Planning and Permits Division

Suite 900, James K. Polk Building

505 Deaderick Street

Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0338

615-253-2477

LOCATION: The proposed alteration is located at the intersection of Westport Road and the Big Sandy River in Carroll County. (35.8929°N, -88.3090°W)

WATERSHED DESCRIPTION: The proposed alteration would impact the Big Sandy River and adjacent wetlands. Both resources are located in the Kentucky Lake watershed (HUC 06040005). Big Sandy River at this location has been assessed as not supporting one or more of its classified uses and as impaired due to *Escherichia coli*. Those uses include industrial water supply, fish and aquatic life, recreation, livestock watering and wildlife, and irrigation. The river at this location ranges in width from 50 to 60 feet and bank height from 8 to 10 feet. Water width is around 50 feet and depth is 1 to 3 feet. The river has a sandy substrate and has been heavily channelized. The wetland is large forested and open water system consisting of sweetgum, sycamore, overcup oak, boxelder, river birch, red maple, and black willow. The wetland is contiguous with the river and has not been assessed.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant proposes to replace two bridges due to structural deficiencies. One bridge is located over the Big Sandy River and the other is the wetland acting as an overflow area. The existing overflow bridge would be removed and replaced with a 3-span concrete girder bridge. The bridge over the river would also be removed and replaced with 250 feet of 5-span concrete girder bridge and have riprap applied around the abutments for scour protection. Both bridge replacements would result in a total of 0.28 ac. of permanent wetland fill and 1.70 ac. of temporary wetland impacts. The permanent loss of wetland would be mitigated by debiting, at a 4:1 ratio, 1.12 ac. from available wetland credits at the Crooked Creek Wetland Bank. The areas of temporary impacts would have the topsoil removed and stockpiled prior to construction. Upon completion of construction, all temporary wetland impact areas are to be restored to pre-construction contours and the stockpiled topsoil spread to restore the areas to pre-construction elevation.

In accordance with the Tennessee Antidegradation Statement (Rule 1200-4-3-.06), the division has determined that the proposed activity will not result in degradation to water quality.

USGS TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE: Buena-Vista, TN (10-NE)

PERMIT COORDINATOR: Trent Thomas

No decision has been made whether to issue or deny this permit. The purpose of this notice is to inform interested parties of this permit application and to ask for comments and information necessary to determine possible impacts to water quality. Persons wishing to comment on the proposal are invited to submit written comments to the department. Written comments must be

received within **thirty days of the date that this notice is posted**. Comments will become part of the record and will be considered in the final decision. The applicant's name and permit number should be referenced.

Interested persons may also request in writing that the department hold a public hearing on this application. The request must be filed within the comment period, indicate the interest of the person requesting it, the reasons that the hearing is warranted, and the water quality issues being raised. When there is sufficient public interest in water quality issues, the department will hold a public hearing.

The permit application, supporting documentation including detailed plans and maps, and related comments are available at the department's address for review and/or copying. The department's address is:

Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation
Division of Water Pollution Control, Natural Resources Section
7th Floor L & C Annex
401 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37243

In deciding whether to issue or deny a permit, the department will consider all comments on record and the requirements of applicable federal and state laws.

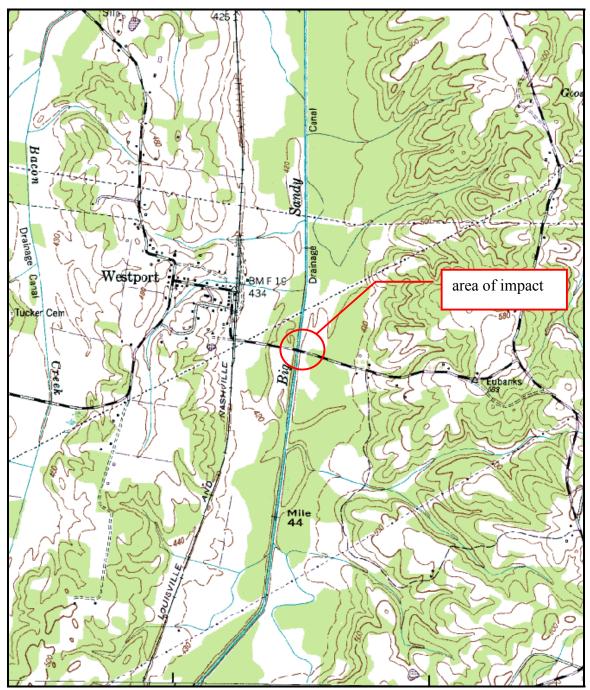


Figure 1: Topographic map of project location

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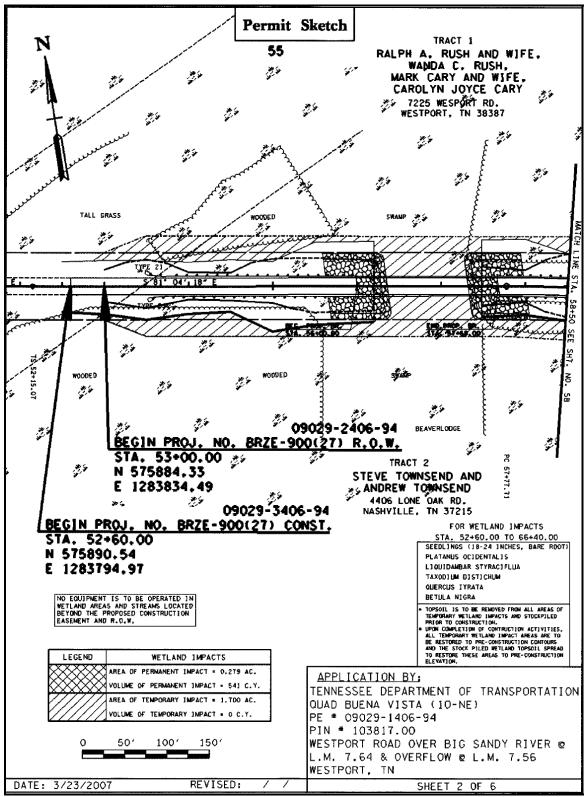


Figure 2: Permit sketch for overflow bridge

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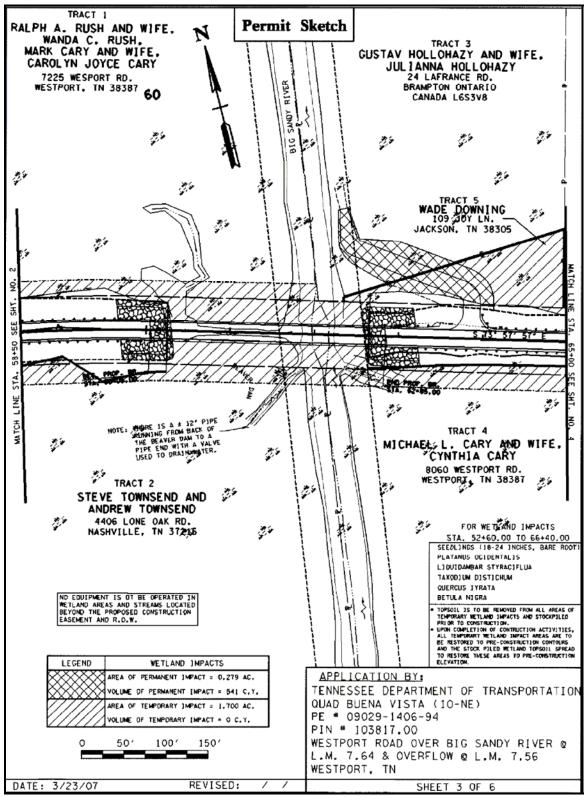


Figure 3: Permit sketch for river bridge

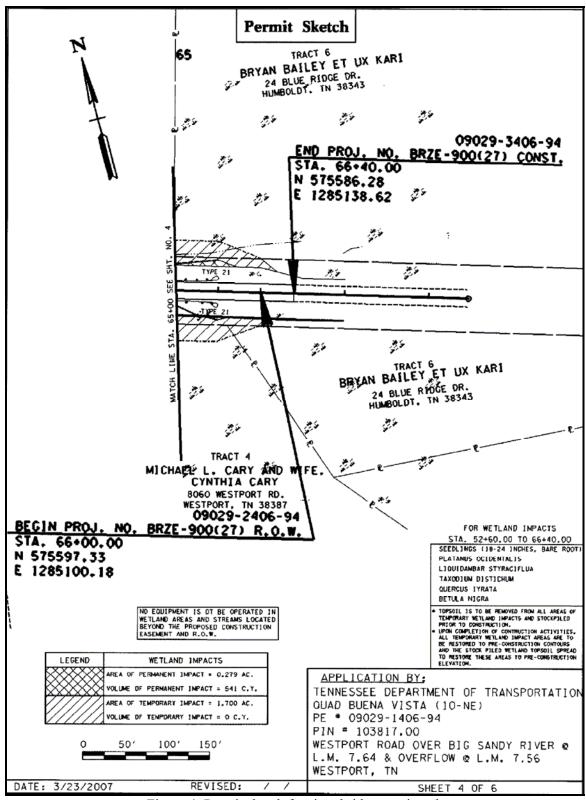


Figure 4: Permit sketch for river bridge continued



Photograph 1: wetland around bridges and river



Photograph 2: wetland around bridges and river continued



Photograph 3: wetland around bridges and river continued



Photograph 4: Big Sandy River and wetlands



Photograph 5: Big Sandy River